

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY



PCT

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Rec'd PCT/PTO 25 AUG 2005

Applicant's or agent's file reference T03-03152WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Form PCT/IPBA/416
International application No. PCT/JP2003/014592	International filing date (day/month/year) 17 November 2003 (17.11.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 19 November 2002 (19.11.2002)	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC C03B 33/037, C03C 15/00, H05B 33/02, G09F 9/30, G02F 1/1333			
Applicant THK CO., LTD.			

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.

3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:

a. (*sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau*) a total of _____ sheets, as follows:

sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).

sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.

b. (*sent to the International Bureau only*) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).

4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 05 March 2004 (05.03.2004)	Date of completion of this report 30 June 2004 (30.06.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2003/014592

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

- This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is language of a translation furnished for the purpose of:
- international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 - publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
 - international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed"* and are not annexed to this report):

- The international application as originally filed/furnished

- the description:

pages _____, as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

- the claims:

pages _____, as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____, as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

- the drawings:

pages _____, as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

- a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- the description, pages _____
- the claims, Nos. _____
- the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

4. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

- the description, pages _____
- the claims, Nos. _____
- the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/JP 03/14592
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V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	2, 7, 8	YES
	Claims	1, 3-6	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	2, 7, 8	YES
	Claims	1, 3-6	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-8	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

Document 1: JP 9-141646 A (Sony Corp.), 03 June 1997

The invention that is set forth in claims 1 and 3 to 6 is disclosed in document 1 cited in the international search report; therefore, it lacks novelty and does not involve an inventive step.

Document 1 discloses a method for cutting a substrate by forming cutting grooves upon one surface of a substrate and thereafter fully cutting the substrate from the surface on the opposite side of the substrate by means of a dicing blade; therefore, document 1 is considered to disclose the feature of removing a portion of the reverse surface of a substrate and thereafter forming cracks that extend to the reverse surface of the substrate.

It would be easy for a person skilled in the art to configure the invention that is disclosed in document 1 so that the scribing lines cross in the vertical and horizontal directions or so that the scribing lines form closed curves in order to accommodate the form of the substrate, as appropriate.

The invention that is set forth in claims 2, 7 and 8 is not disclosed in any of the documents that are cited in the international search report, and is not obvious to a person skilled in the art.

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Document 1 does not disclose or suggest the feature of removing the reverse surface of a glass substrate material by means of etching or chemical polishing.

In addition, document 1 does not disclose or suggest the feature of laminating and then processing two sheets of a glass substrate material.